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## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PRESENTS CEREMONIAL CHECK TO COUNTY OF EDWARDS

**ROCK SPRINGS, TEXAS, June 1, 2006**-- Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, along with Henry Bonilla, U.S. Congressman for District 23, today presented a ceremonial check for \$34,800 to the County of Edwards. The USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant will be used to purchase a new brush truck to help in the event of wild fires in the county.

"This funding will help protect the residents of Edwards County from devastating wild fires," said Daniel. "USDA Rural Development is committed to providing assistance to rural towns and communities, to help them provide valuable services to their residents."

In Fiscal Year 2005, a total of \$991,000 in Community Facility Grants was obligated in Texas. Funds are used to enhance the quality of life for residents of rural areas by providing the means for construction, expansion, or enhancement of community facilities, telecommunication and distance education programs, and water and waste disposal systems. Since 2001, USDA Rural Development Community Programs has awarded \$1.8 billion for these purposes, and touched the lives of more than 1.16 million households in the process.

USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 to serve Texas' more than 3.6 million rural residents. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the Uvalde Local Office at (830) 278-9503, Extension 4, or visit our website at http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/.